VSS payment to employees of HFC and FCI

1827. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:
SHRI CHITTABRATA MAJUMDAR:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have finally decided to make (i) payment of 60 months Voluntary Separation Scheme compensation to the employees of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation and Fertilizer Corporation of India who have rendered 30 years or more service and (ii) inclusion of training period as part of service for the purpose of calculating *ex-gratia* for VSS and gratuity payment to the coluntarily separated employees of HFC and FCI;

(b) if so, whether the same has been implemented and the concerned ex-employees have been paid their dues; and

(c) if not by, when the same would be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Owing to non-availability of funds, both FCI and HFC have not been able to implement the Government decision so far. The Department is seeking budgetary support enabling them to release the compensation as per entitlement.

Revival of Madras Fertilizers Limited

1828. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:
SHRI CHITTABRATA MAJUMDAR:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises have recommended the revival of Madras Fertilizers Limited; and

(b) if so, the status of the revival?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) and (b) No recommendations

has been made by BRPSE for revival of Madras Fertilizers Limited (MFL). BRPSE has made certain recommendations for financial restructuring of MFL including some changes in pricing policies of fertilizers produced by MFL which are under consideration.

Drug Banks

†1829. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:
SHRI KRISHAN LAL BALMIKI:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are contmplating to set up 'Drug Banks' in all districts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have consulted with various drug manufacturing companies in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (d) A scheme of District Level Drug Bank in various States has been proposed in the draft National Pharmaceutical Policy 2006 with the objective to provide cheaper medicines to common man and free medicines to BPL families. The scheme enviages public-private partnership to set up such drug banks which can be operated like such stores being managed in States like Rajasthan through Medicare Societies. Modalities of the scheme are being worked out in consultation with States and Pharma Industry Associations.

Refinery based fertilizer plants

1830. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government consider refinery integrated fertilizer plants to make use of vacuum residue from refinery processing or coal through clean coal technologies as feedstock for ammonia plants; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.